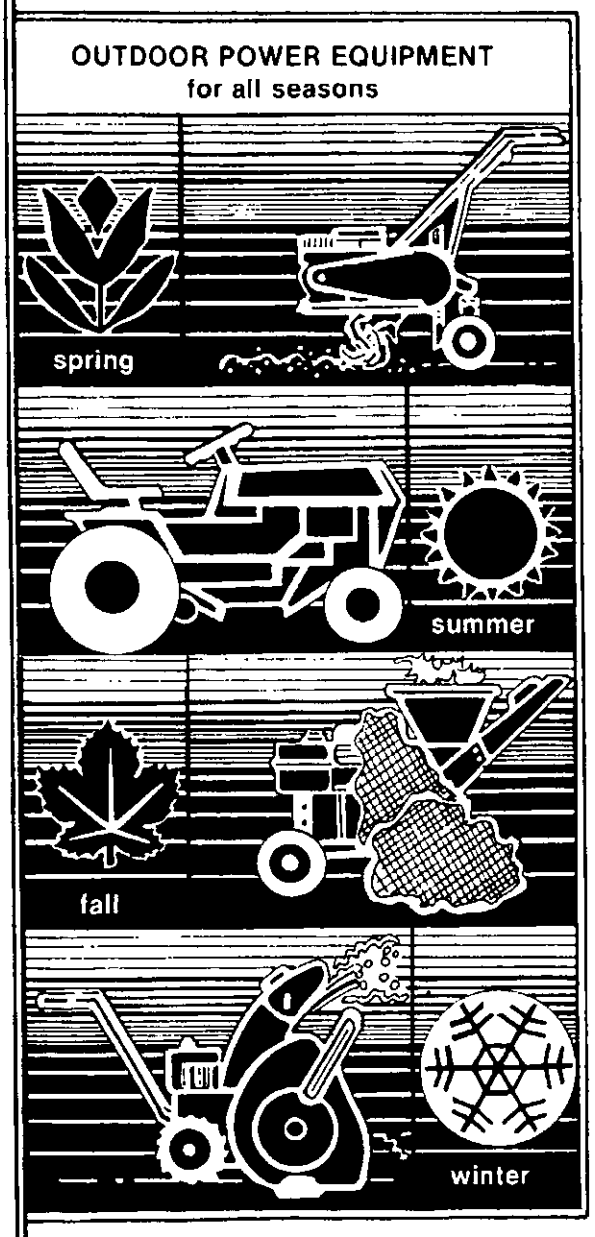
OWNER'S GUIDE



AGWAY

21″ SELF-PROPELLED ROTARY MOWER

Model Number
82-0664
(125-234-019)

Important:

Read Safety Rules and Instructions Carefully

Thank you for purchasing an American-built product.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

FORM NO. 770-4497

INDEX

Safe Operation Practices 3
Assembly 4
Controls 8
Operation 8
Adjustments 10
Lubrication 11
Maintenance 11
Off-Season Storage 15
Trouble Shooting Chart 17
Illustrated Parts 18, 20
Repair Parts Lists 19, 21
Parts Information ..... Back Cover

Instructions given with this symbol are for personal safety. Be sure to follow them.

LIMITED WARRANTY

For one year from the date of original retail purchase, MTD PRODUCTS INC will either repair or replace, at its option, free of charge, F.O.B. factory or authorized service firm, any part or parts found to be defective in material or workmanship. Transportation charges for the movement of any power equipment unit or attachment are the responsibility of the purchaser. Transportation charges for any parts submitted for replacement under this warranty must be paid by the purchaser unless such return is requested by MTD PRODUCTS INC.

This warranty will not apply to any part which has become inoperative due to misuse, excessive use, accident, neglect, improper maintenance, alterations, or unless the unit has been operated and maintained in accordance with the instructions furnished. This warranty does not apply to the engine, motor, battery, battery charger or component parts thereof. Please refer to the applicable manufacturer's warranty on these items.

This warranty will not apply where the unit has been used commercially.

Warranty service is available through your local authorized service dealer or distributor. If you do not know the dealer or distributor in your area, please write to the Customer Service Department of MTD.

The return of a complete unit will not be accepted by the factory unless prior written permission has been extended by MTD.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

WARNING

This unit is equipped with an internal combustion engine and should not be used on or near any unimproved forest-covered, brush-covered or grass-covered land unless the engine's exhaust system is equipped with a spark arrester meeting applicable local or state laws (if any). If a spark arrester is used, it should be maintained in effective working order by the operator.

In the State of California the above is required by law (Section 4442 of the California Public Resources Code). Other states may have similar laws. Federal laws apply on federal lands. A spark arrester muffler is available at your nearest engine authorized service center.

WARNING

To reduce the potential for any injury, comply with the following safety instructions. Failure to comply with the instructions may result in personal injury.

SAFE OPERATION PRACTICES FOR WALK-BEHIND MOWERS

TRAINING

1. Read this owner's manual carefully in its entirety before attempting to assemble or operate this machine. Be completely familiar with the controls and the proper use of this machine before operating it. Keep this manual in a safe place for future and regular reference and for ordering replacement parts.
2. Your rotary mower is a precision piece of power equipment, not a plaything. Therefore, exercise extreme caution at all times.
3. Never allow children to operate a power mower. Only persons well acquainted with these rules of safe operation should be allowed to use your mower.
4. Keep the area of operation clear of all persons, particularly small children and pets. Stop engine when they are in the vicinity of your mower. Although the area of operation should be completely cleared of foreign objects, an object may have been overlooked and could be accidently thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator or any others allowed in the area.

PREPARATION

1. Thoroughly inspect the area where the equipment is to be used. Remove all stones, sticks, wire, bones and other foreign objects which could be picked up and thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator or any others allowed in the area.
2. Do not operate equipment when barefoot or wearing open sandals. Always wear substantial footwear.
3. Do not wear loose fitting clothing that could get caught on the mower.
4. Check the fuel before starting the engine. Gasoline is an extremely flammable fuel. Do not fill the gasoline tank indoors, while the engine is running, or while the engine is still hot. Wipe off any spilled gasoline before starting the engine as it may cause a fire or explosion.
5. Disengage the self-propelled mechanism or drive clutch on units so equipped before starting the engine.
6. The blade control handle is a safety device. Never attempt to bypass its operation. Doing so makes the safety device inoperative and may result in personal injury through contact with the rotating blade. The blade control handle must operate easily in both directions.
7. Never attempt to make a wheel or cutting height adjustment while the engine is running.
8. Mow only in daylight or in good artificial light.
9. Never operate the equipment in wet grass. Always be sure of your footing. A slip and fall can cause serious personal injury. Keep a firm hold on the handle and walk, never run.

OPERATION

1. Do not change the engine governor settings or overspeed the engine. Excessive engine speeds are dangerous.
2. Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of the discharge opening at all times as the rotating blade can cause injury.
3. Stop the blade when crossing gravel drives, walks or roads.
4. After striking a foreign object, stop the engine, remove the wire from the spark plug, and thoroughly inspect the mower for any damage. Repair the damage before restarting and operating the mower.
5. If the equipment should start to vibrate abnormally, stop the engine and check immediately for the cause. Vibration is generally a warning of trouble.
6. Shut the engine off and wait until the blade comes to a complete stop before removing the grass catcher or unclogging the chute. The cutting blade continues to rotate for a few seconds after the engine is shut off. Never place any part of the body in the blade area until you are sure the blade has stopped rotating.
7. Before cleaning, repairing or inspecting, make certain the blade and all moving parts have stopped. Disconnect the spark plug wire, and keep the wire away from the spark plug to prevent accidental starting.
8. Do not run the engine indoors.
9. Mow across the face of slopes, never up-and-down. Exercise extreme caution when changing direction on slopes. Do not mow excessively steep slopes. Always be sure of your footing. A slip and fall can cause serious personal injury.
10. Always disconnect electric mowers (line operated) before cleaning, repairing or adjusting.
11. Never operate mower without proper guards, plates or other safety protective devices in place.

MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

1. Check the blade and engine mounting bolts at frequent intervals for proper tightness.
2. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.
3. Never store the equipment with gasoline in the tank inside of a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
4. To reduce fire hazard, keep the engine free of grass, leaves, or excessive grease.
5. Check the grass catcher bag frequently for wear or deterioration. For safety protection, replace only with new bag meeting original equipment specifications.

SAFE OPERATION PRACTICES (Continued)

BLADE BRAKE/CLUTCH MAINTENANCE

NOTE: Any required repair work on the blade brake/clutch should be performed by an authorized service dealer. If you cannot locate an authorized service dealer, contact the manufacturer as set forth on your copy of the Owner's Registration Card.

1. **The blade brake/clutch hand control is a safety device. Never attempt to bypass its operation.** Doing so makes the safety device inoperative and may result in personal injury through contact with the rotating blade. This hand control must operate freely in both directions.
2. Striking a solid object can cause damage to the blade brake/clutch or to the engine crankshaft. Extensive vibration of the mower during operation is an indication of damage and the unit should be promptly inspected and repaired.
3. A leak in the lower engine crankshaft oil seal could expose the blade brake/clutch friction pads to excess oil resulting in blade or brake slippage, which could increase the stopping time of the blade. Oil collection on the floor beneath the mower during storage may be an indication of an oil seal leak. The unit should be checked by an authorized service dealer.
4. Periodically inspect the inner control cable in the area where it attaches to the hand control. If the cable becomes frayed, it could cause the blade brake/clutch to operate improperly. Also, be careful to avoid pinching the blade brake/clutch control cable when storing the handle.

NOTE

This unit is shipped WITHOUT GASOLINE or OIL. After assembly, see separate engine manual for proper fuel and engine oil recommendations.

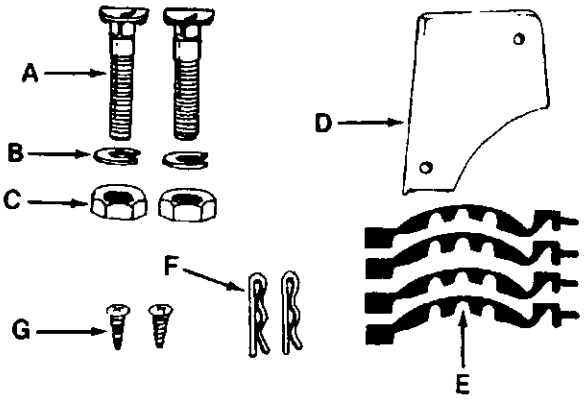


FIGURE 1.

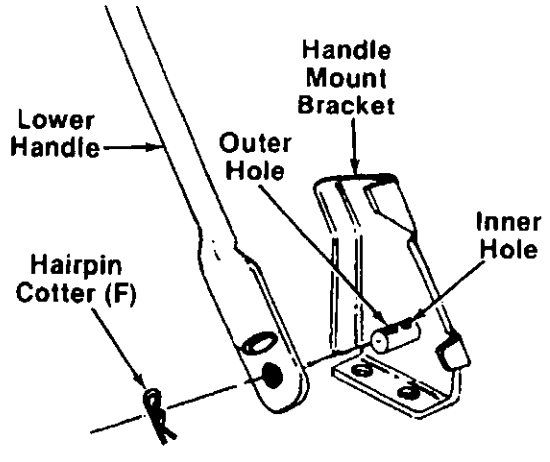


FIGURE 2.

ASSEMBLY

Contents of Hardware Pack: (See figure 1)

A (2) Curved Carriage Bolts 1.38" Long
B (2) Lock Washers 5/16" I.D.
C (2) Hex Nuts 5/16-18 Thread
D (1) Plastic Cap
E (4) Cable Ties
F (2) Hairpin Cotters
G (2) Phillips Head Screws
H (2) Front Hub Caps (Optional)

1. Remove the lawn mower, loose parts, hardware pack and literature from the carton. Make certain all parts and literature have been removed before the carton is discarded.
2. Extend all control cables and place on the floor. Be careful not to bend or kink control cables.
3. Attach the lower handle by placing bottom holes in lower handle over weld pins in handle mount brackets on deck. Make certain the instruction label on the lower handle can be read from the operating position. Secure by placing two hairpin cotters (F) in inner hole on weld pins. See figure 2.

NOTE

It may be necessary to bend the ends of the lower handle outward slightly to obtain a snug fit against the bracket.

NOTE

There are two (2) holes in the handle mount brackets. Place hairpin cotter in the inner hole for operation. The outer hole is for storage.

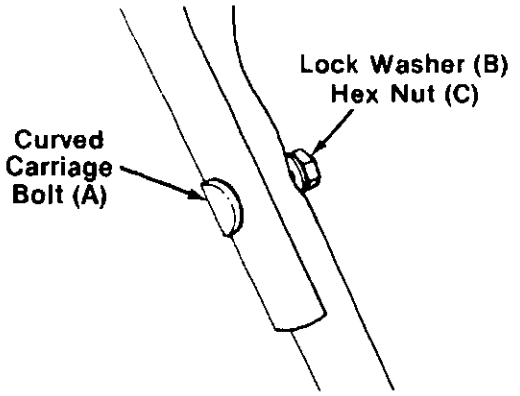


FIGURE 3.

4. Place upper handle in position over lower handle. Control housing should be on the **right** side of the handle. Secure upper handle with two curved carriage bolts (A), lock washer (B) and hex nut (C). See figure 3.

NOTE

Reference to left or right side of machine is determined from operator's position at the handle facing forward.

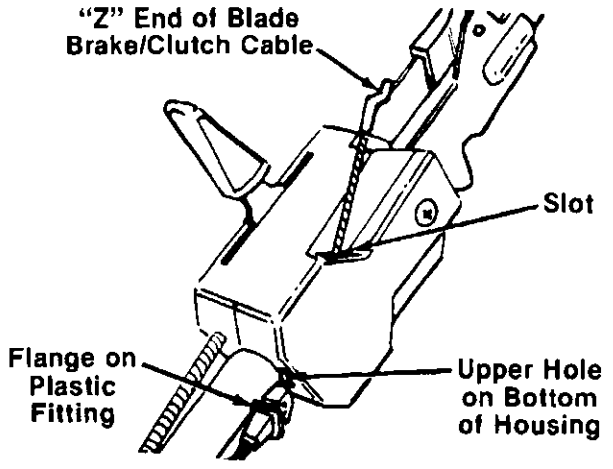


FIGURE 4.

5. The blade brake/clutch cable is the cable which has a "Z" fitting on the loose end, and is attached to the blade brake/clutch underneath the deck.

   Route the blade brake/clutch cable under the lower handle. Place end of cable into the upper hole on the bottom of the control housing, and through the slot on the side of the housing as shown. The angle of the flange on the plactic fitting must be positioned downward as shown in figure 4. Be careful not to bend or kink the cable.

WARNING

The cable must be assembled as shown for proper blade brake/clutch operation.

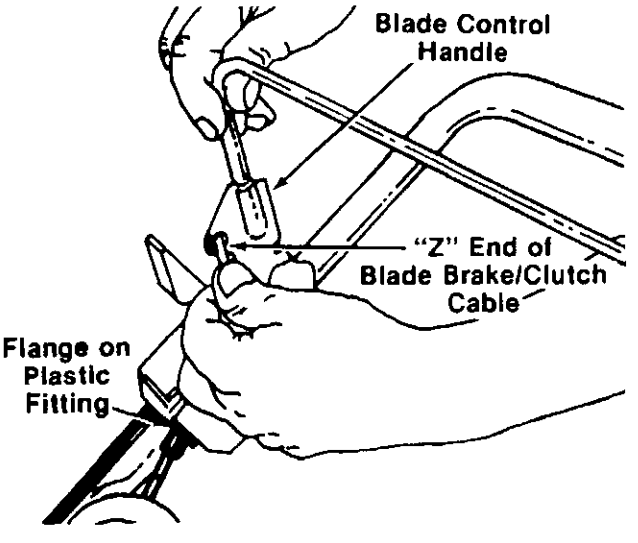


FIGURE 5.

6. Snap the plastic fitting on the end of the cable into the control housing.
7. Hook the "Z" end of the blade brake/clutch cable into blade brake/clutch control handle. See figure 5. If additional slack is needed in order to hook the cable into the handle, proceed as follows.

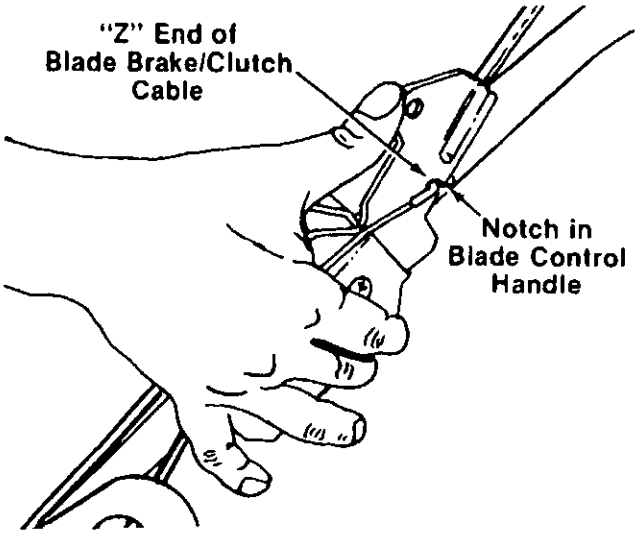


FIGURE 6.

a. Hook the "Z" end of the cable into notch provided in the blade control handle. See figure 6.

b. Push release lever (see figure 12), then squeeze blade control handle against upper handle.

c. Release the blade control handle, unhook the cable from the notch and hook it into the hole in the blade control handle.

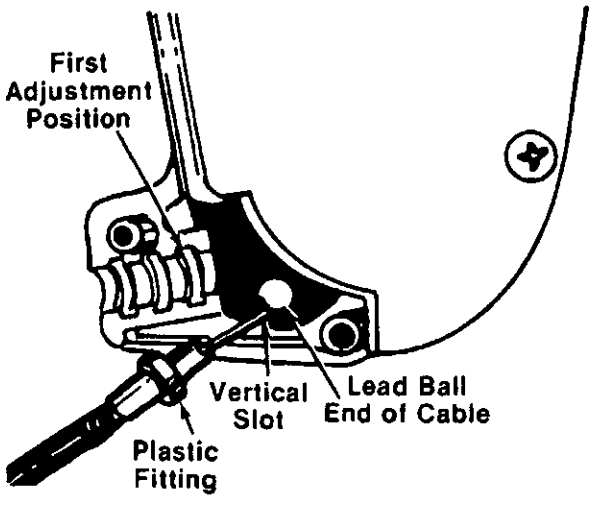


FIGURE 7.

8. The drive clutch control cable is attached to the deck. Attach the cable to the lever in the clutch control housing, located in the middle of the upper handle, as follows.

a. Place the lead ball end of the cable into the fitting provided in the end of the clutch control lever. Slip the braided wire into the vertical slot as shown in figure 7.

b. Slide the braided wire around in the horizontal slot. See figure 8.

c. Place the plastic fitting on the control cable into the first adjustment position in the clutch control housing. See figure 7.

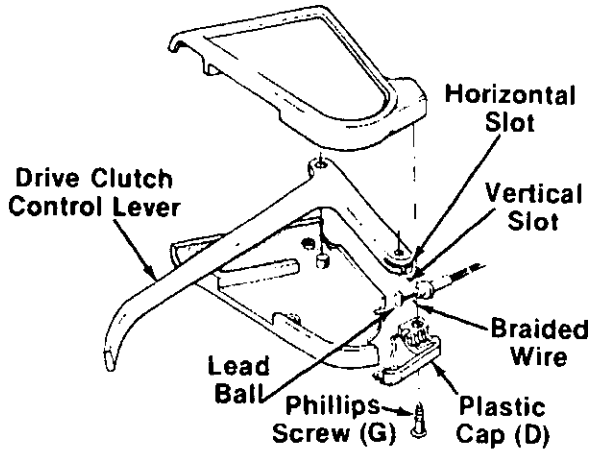


FIGURE 8.

d. Secure the plastic cap (D) to the clutch control housing using the two Phillips head screws (G). See figure 8.

WARNING

Drive clutch adjustment must be checked before the unit is operated, as described in the operation section.

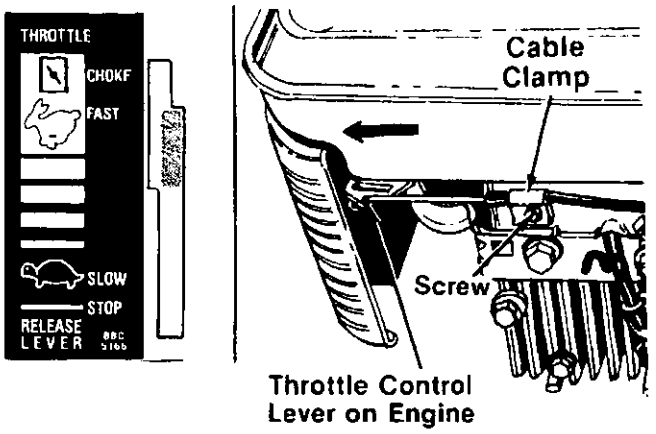


FIGURE 9.

9. Move throttle control lever on handle forward until it stops in "Fast" position (**Do not** push all the way forward to "Choke" position.) See figure 9.
10. Slide the throttle control lever on the engine as far toward the outside of the engine as it will go **easily** as shown in figure 9. (**Do not** force it into the extreme outside position, which is the "Choke" position.)
11. The throttle control cable is attached to the upper handle. Hook the "Z" end of the throttle control cable into the hole in the control lever on the engine. See figure 9.
12. Loosen the screw on the cable clamp shown in figure 9. Slip the throttle control casing under the clamp. With the throttle lever on the engine still in the "Fast" position, tighten the screw to secure the throttle control cable. Be certain the clamp is positioned so it holds the cable in a straight line, parallel to the engine shroud.

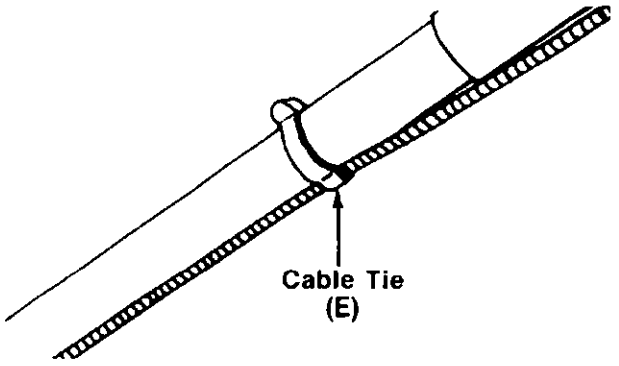


FIGURE 10.

13. Secure the throttle control cable and drive clutch cable to handle with cable ties (E) provided. See figure 10.
14. Check **all** nuts and bolts for correct tightness.

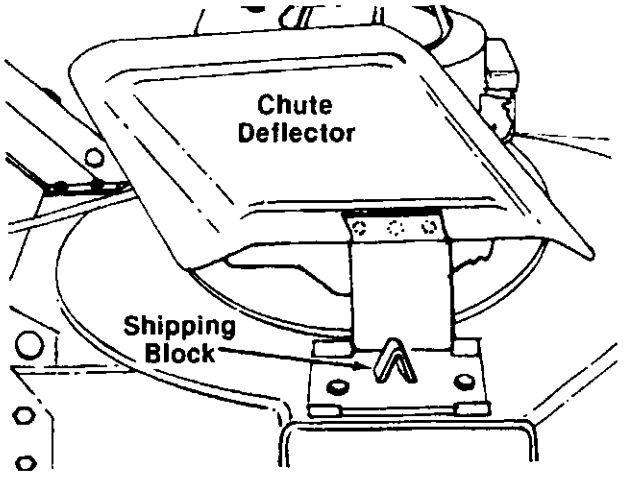


FIGURE 11.

CAUTION

Please note that the chute deflector on your mower is in an upright position. It is held in that position by a shipping block. This block is used for shipping purposes only. It must be removed and discarded before your mower is put into operation. See figure 11.

CONTROLS

THROTTLE CONTROL

The throttle is located on the right side of handle. It controls engine speed. See figure 12.

DRIVE CLUTCH CONTROL

Squeezing the drive clutch control engages the drive mechanism to the rear wheels. Releasing the clutch control stops the rear wheels from driving. Release the drive clutch control to slow down when negotiating an obstacle, making a turn or stopping. See figure 12.

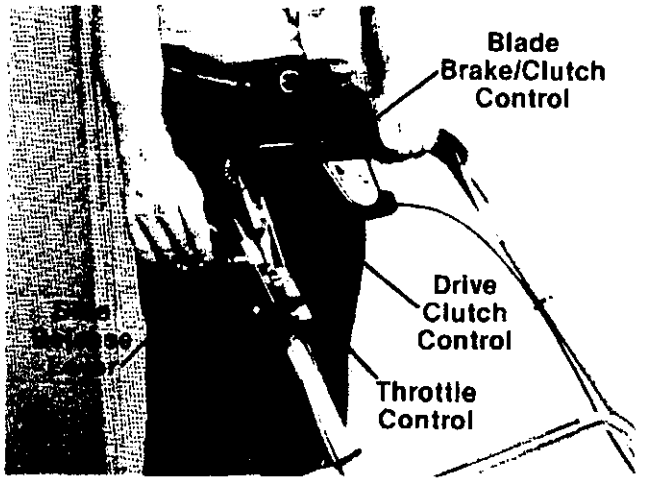


FIGURE 12.

BLADE BRAKE/CLUTCH CONTROL

The blade brake/clutch control is located on the upper handle of the mower. The blade brake/clutch handle engages and disengages the blade.

WARNING
THIS CONTROL MECHANISM IS A SAFETY DEVICE NEVER ATTEMPT TO BYPASS ITS OPERATIONS

To engage the blade, pull the side release lever away from the unit. See figure 12. Pull the blade brake/clutch control handle down against the upper handle. Release side lever.

Release the blade brake/clutch control handle to stop the blade from turning.

OPERATION

Caution
Do Not Operate Mower Unless This Guard Or Entire Grasscatcher Is In Its Proper Place.
DANGER
KEEP HANDS and FEET AWAY
2196

FIGURE 13.

Keep hands and feet away from the chute area on cutting deck. See figure 13.

NOTE

For shipping purposes your mower is set with the wheels in a low cutting height position. For best results raise the cutting position until it is determined which height is best for your lawn. See cutting height adjustment section.

BEFORE STARTING

1. Fill sump with oil as instructed in the separate engine manual packed with your unit.
2. Fill fuel tank, using clean, fresh, lead-free, low-lead or regular grade leaded gasoline. Fill tank completely!

   DO NOT MIX OIL WITH GASOLINE.
3. Attach spark plug wire to spark plug.
4. Open fuel shut-off valve, located beneath the fuel tank. See figure 14.

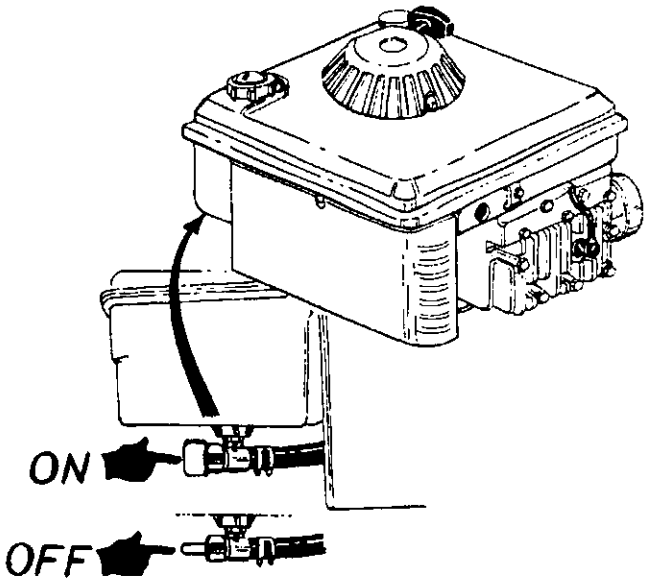


FIGURE 14.

5. Before each use, check for proper drive clutch operation by performing the following before starting the engine:

   With the drive clutch control released, push mower forward. It should move freely. Pull mower backward. It should move freely.

   With the drive clutch control engaged (lever squeezed against upper handle), push mower forward. It should move freely. Pull mower backward. The rear wheels should lock up. If they do not, adjust the clutch control as specified under Drive Clutch Control Adjustment on page 10.

TO START ENGINE

1. Move throttle control lever to "START" position.
2. With the blade brake/clutch handle **released,** crank engine by pulling starter handle with a quick firm pull. Do not pull out so far that rope stops with a jerk as this will cause rope failure. Do not allow rope and handle to snap back into place.
3. After two or three full firm pulls on starter, or as soon as engine starts, move throttle control to desired engine speed.

TO STOP ENGINE

1. Move throttle control lever to "STOP" position.
2. Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug to prevent accidental starting while equipment is unattended.

TO ENGAGE THE BLADE

1. Start engine as instructed above. Allow the engine to warm up for one minute before attempting to engage the blade.
2. To engage the blade, pull the side release lever away from the unit. Pull the blade brake/clutch control handle down against the upper handle. Release the side lever. See figure 12.

NOTE

If a warm engine falters or stalls when attempting to engage the blade, refer to Carburetor Adjustment Section of this owner's manual.

3. Release the blade brake/clutch control handle to stop the blade from turning.

NOTE

Always release the blade brake/clutch control handle before stopping the engine. If the engine begins to stall, release the blade brake/clutch control handle immediately.

Should the engine stall with the blade brake/clutch control in the operating position (control handle **not** released), difficulty may be encountered in pulling the starter rope to restart the engine. Proceed as follows.

1. Disconnect the spark plug wire from the spark plug.
2. Move the throttle lever to STOP position.
3. Hold the blade brake/clutch control in the engaged position.
4. While holding the blade brake/clutch control handle in this position, pull the starter rope.
5. As the starter rope is being pulled, release the blade brake/clutch control handle.

The starter rope should now operate correctly. Reconnect the spark plug wire for normal operation.

USING YOUR ROTARY MOWER

Be sure that lawn is clear of stones, sticks, wire, or other objects which could damage lawn mower or engine. Such objects could be accidently thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator and others.

Operate a new engine at intermediate speeds and light load for the first few hours as you would a new automotive engine.

For best results, do not cut wet grass because it tends to stick to the underside of the mower, preventing proper discharge of grass clippings, and could cause you to slip and fall. New grass or thick grass may require a narrower cut. Blade speed should be adjusted to the condition of the lawn.

The best mowing pattern is one that allows the clippings to discharge towards the uncut part of the lawn. This permits recutting of the clippings to further pulverize them. When cutting high weeds, discharge towards cut portion, then recut at right angles to first direction.

For best results, cut off one-third or less of the total length of the grass. Lawn should be cut in the fall as long as there is growth.

This mower is designed to be operated at full throttle to give you the best cut and do the most effective job of bagging the cut grass.

IMPORTANT

If you strike a foreign object, stop the engine. Remove wire from spark plug, thoroughly inspect the mower for any damage, and repair the damage before restarting and operating the mower.

Striking a solid object can cause damage to the blade brake/clutch or to the engine crankshaft. Extensive vibration of the mower during operation is an indication of damage. The unit should be promptly inspected and repaired.

ADJUSTMENTS

CAUTION

Do not at any time make any adjustment to lawn mower without first stopping engine and disconnecting spark plug wire.

DRIVE CLUTCH CONTROL ADJUSTMENT

If the unit does not self-propel with the drive clutch control engaged, remove the plastic cap from beneath the drive clutch control housing. Move the plastic fitting on the control cable to the next adjustment position on the left. Reassemble the plastic cap and retest. See figure 15.

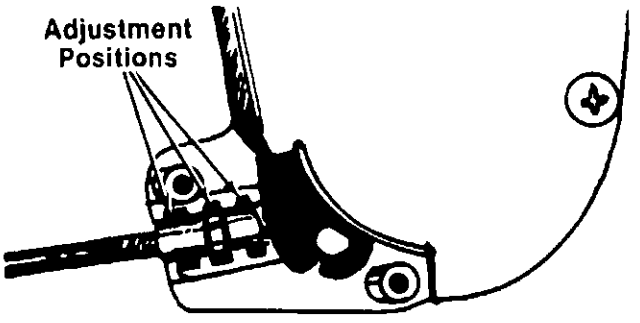


FIGURE 15.

CUTTING HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

An adjusting plate and thumb lever at each wheel position provides cutting height adjustment. Each adjusting plate has five holes. Height of cut will be changed when the thumb lever is moved from one hole to another. Simply depress thumb lever towards wheel and move wheel and lever assembly to desired position. All wheels must be placed in the same relative position.

THROTTLE

The throttle control wire assembly can be adjusted if necessary. Refer to steps 9 through 12 of assembly instructions.

CARBURETOR ADJUSTMENTS

WARNING

If any adjustments are made to the engine while the engine is running (e.g. carburetor), disengage all clutches and blades. Keep clear of all moving parts. Be careful of heated surfaces and muffler.

Minor carburetor adjustments may be required to compensate for differences in fuel, temperature, altitude and load. Refer to the separate engine manual packed with your mower.

NOTE

If a warm engine falters or stalls when attempting to engage the blade, the carburetor mixture should be adjusted 1/8 turn richer (counter-clockwise). See figure 16.

The carburetor should be adjusted with the air cleaner in place and the blade control handle in the blade disengaged position.

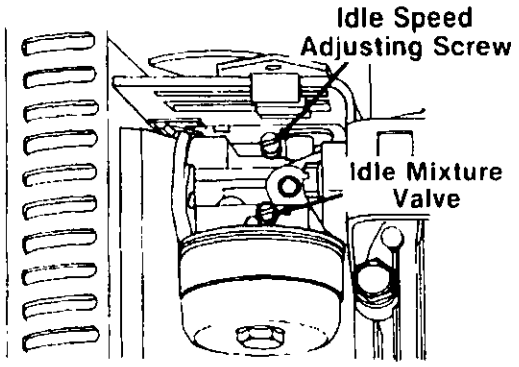


FIGURE 16.

LUBRICATION

IMPORTANT

Always stop engine and disconnect spark plug wire before cleaning, lubricating or doing any kind of work on lawn mower.

Blade Brake/Clutch—Lubricate the pivot points on the blade brake/clutch handle and the cable at least once a season with light oil. The control must operate freely in both directions.

Chute Deflector—The torsion spring and pivot point should be lubricated periodically with light oil to prevent any rust or binding. Deflector must work freely.

Wheels—Mower may be provided with ball bearing wheels. Lubricate at least once a season with light oil. Also, if the wheels are removed for any reason, lubricate the surface of the axle bolt and the inner surface of the wheel with light oil. A 4 oz. plastic bottle of light oil lubricant is available. Order part number 737-0170. Engine oil may also be used.

Engine—Follow engine manual for lubrication instructions.

Throttle—Periodically lubricate throttle control lever and throttle wire assembly with a few drops of light oil for ease of operation.

Chain—The chain should be lubricated periodically with a few drops of light oil to prevent any rust or binding. Use very little or no oil if unit is being used in a dusty or sandy area.

Rear Wheel Drive—Both rear wheels are driven by a pawl and ratchet drive. Lubricate the pawl and ratchet once a season with a silicone type lubricant.

Figure 17 shows the right rear hub cap. To take off the rear hub caps, remove the four screws around the edge of the hub cap. A cotter pin holds the ratchet in place. The pawl must pivot freely. Clean with a solvent, replace any broken or worn parts and lubricate.

The pawl and ratchet on the left rear hub cap are assembled facing the opposite way.

After reassembling, test the operation of the drive without the engine running. Engage the clutch and pull the mower backwards. Both wheels should lock. Push the mower forward and both wheels should rotate.

NOTE

The wheels will "click" when the mower is pushed forward.

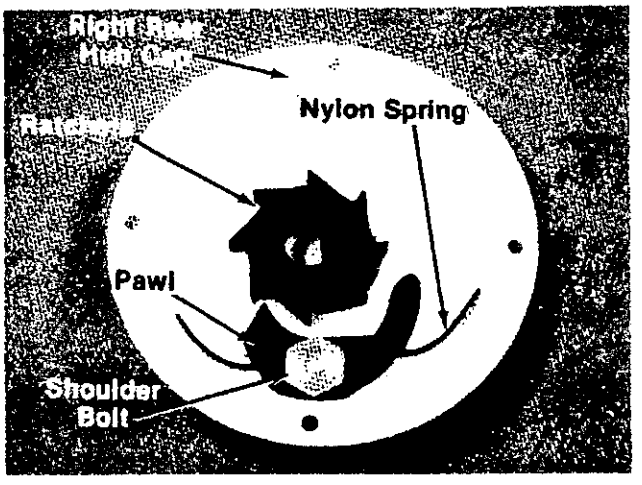


FIGURE 17.

MAINTENANCE

WARNING

Be sure to disconnect and ground the spark plug wire before performing any repairs or maintenance.

NOTE

When tipping the unit, empty the fuel tank and keep engine spark plug side up.

CUTTING BLADE

To remove the cutting blade for sharpening or replacement, remove the two hex nuts and lock washers which hold the blade to the blade brake/clutch. See figure 18.

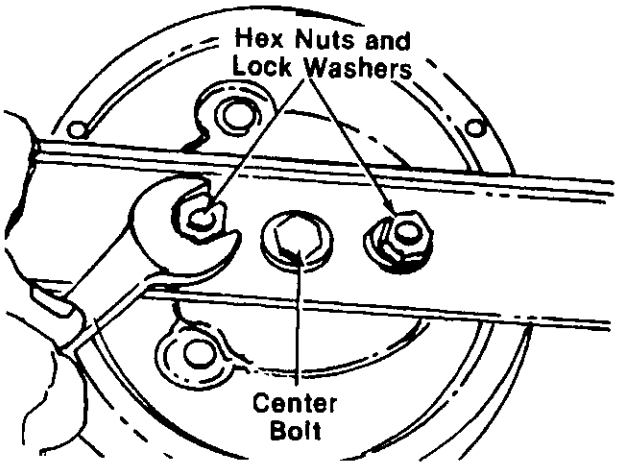


FIGURE 18.

When sharpening the blade, follow the original angle of grind as a guide. It is **extremely important** that each cutting edge receives an equal amount of grinding to prevent an unbalanced blade. An unbalanced blade will cause excessive vibration when rotating at high speeds, may cause damage to the mower and could break, causing personal injury.

The blade can be tested for balance by balancing it on a round shaft screwdriver. Remove metal from the heavy side until it balances evenly.

When replacing the blade, be sure to install the blade with the side of the blade marked "Bottom" (or with part number) facing the ground when the mower is in the operating position.

Blade Mounting Torque

Make certain that the center bolt which secures the blade brake/clutch and the two hex nuts which secure the blade are tightened to between 350 inch pounds (minimum) and 600 inch pounds (maximum).

To insure safe operation of your unit, ALL nuts and bolts must be checked periodically for correct tightness.

DECK

The underside of mower deck should be cleaned after each period of use as grass clippings, leaves, dirt and other matter will accumulate. This accumulation of grass clippings, etc., is undesirable as it will invite rust and corrosion and may cause an uneven discharge of grass clippings at the next cutting.

The deck may be cleaned by tilting the mower forward or on its side and scraping clean with a suitable tool or by washing with a stream of water from a garden hose.

NOTE

Do not direct the stream of water at a hot engine as damage to the engine may result.

ENGINE OIL

Check oil level before starting and after every 5 hours of operation. ADD oil as necessary to keep level to full mark on dipstick. Before removing dipstick, clean area around dipstick to prevent dirt from entering oil fill opening. Engine should be in a level position when checking oil.

Change oil after first 5 hours of operation. Thereafter change every 25 hours. Change oil while engine is warm. Oil may be drained thru oil fill opening by tipping the unit on its side. Oil capacity 1¼ pints.

AIR CLEANER

Service air cleaner every 25 hours under normal conditions. Clean every few hours under extremely dusty conditions. Poor engine performance and flooding usually indicates that the air cleaner should be serviced.

To service air cleaner, refer to the separate engine manual packed with your mower.

SPARK PLUG

The spark plug should be cleaned and the gap reset once a season. Spark plug replacement is recommended at the start of each mowing season; check engine manual for correct plug type and gap specifications.

BELT REPLACEMENT

IMPORTANT

Always stop engine and disconnect spark plug wire before performing any repairs or maintenance on the mower.

1. Place a piece of plastic film under the gasoline cap and tighten it. The plastic prevents gasoline from draining from the air vent in the cap.
2. Tip the mower on its left side. Remove the two hex nuts and lock washers on the blade. Remove the blade from the blade brake/clutch. Refer to figure 18.
3. Remove the four carriage bolts, nuts and lock washers holding the lower deck to the upper deck. A ½" wrench is required. See figure 19.

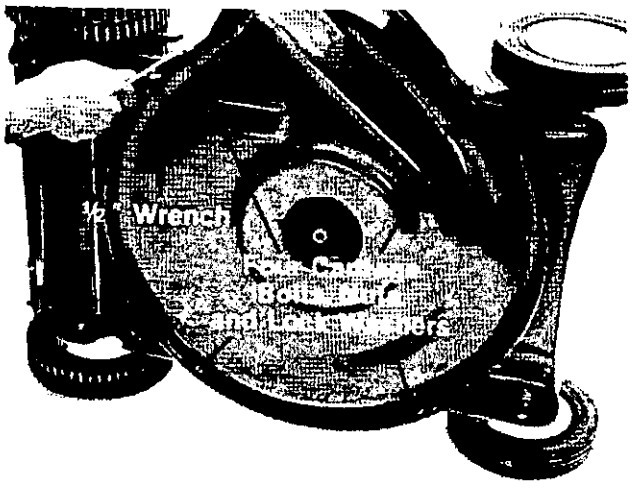


FIGURE 19.

4. Remove the right hand rear wheel hub cap by removing four screws. A phillips screwdriver is required. See figure 20.

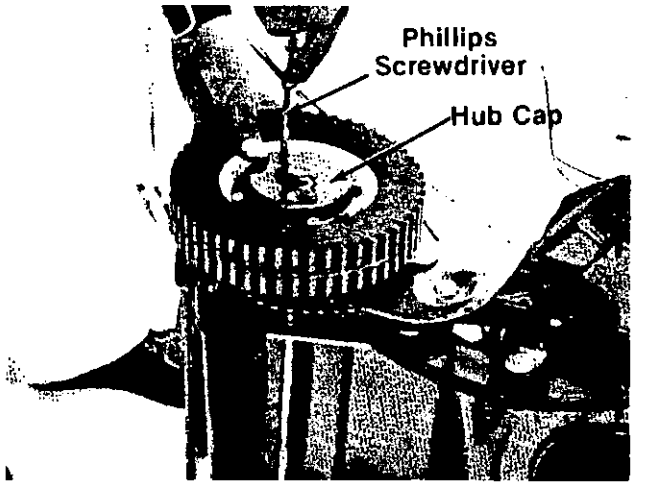


FIGURE 20.

5. Remove cotter pin and ratchet. A pair of pliers is required. See figure 21.

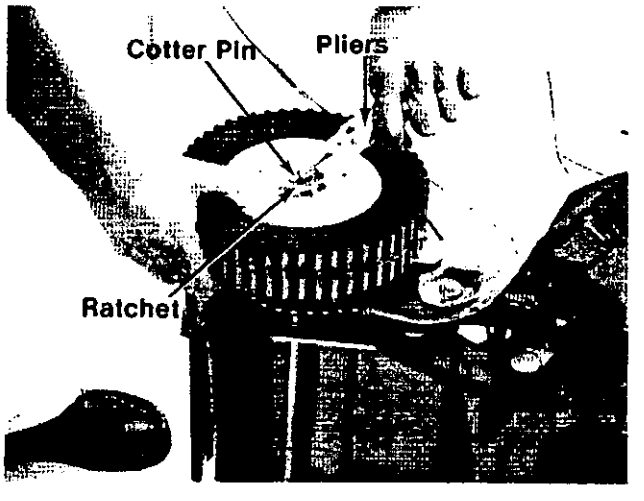


FIGURE 21.

6. Lift the rear wheel off the rear axle.
7. Remove the pivot bracket assembly. A 9/16" wrench is required. Remove the hex jam nut and belleville washer as shown in figure 22.

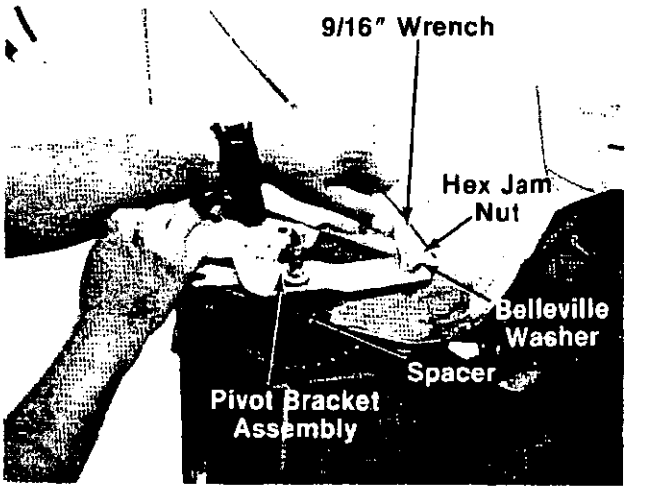


FIGURE 22.

8. Lift off the pivot bracket assembly and spacer. See figure 22.
9. Slide the support link down the rear axle, removing it from the side of deck and pulley sprocket assembly. See figure 23.
10. Remove the spacer from pulley sprocket assembly. See figure 23.

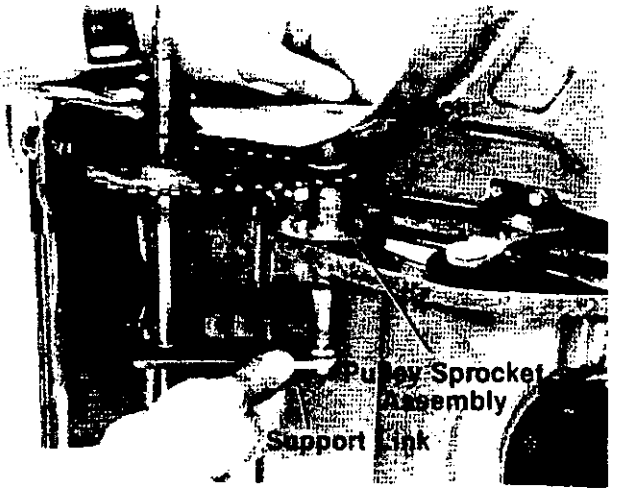


FIGURE 23.

11. Lift the chain off the sprocket as shown in figure 24. Lift the V-belt off the pulley sprocket assembly. See figure 24.

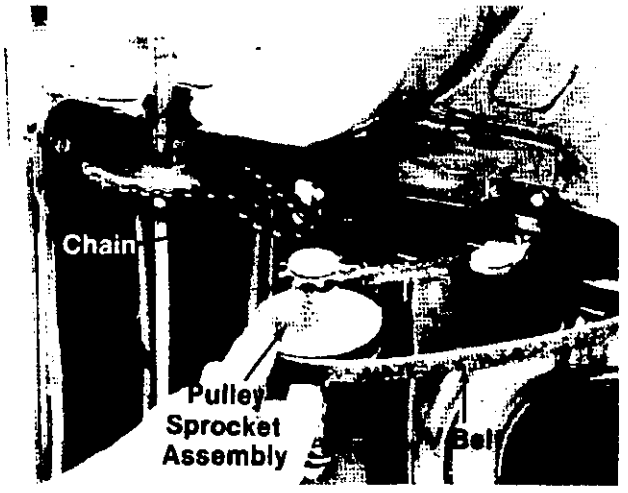


FIGURE 24.

12. Lift the V-belt off the engine pulley and idler pulley. See figure 25.

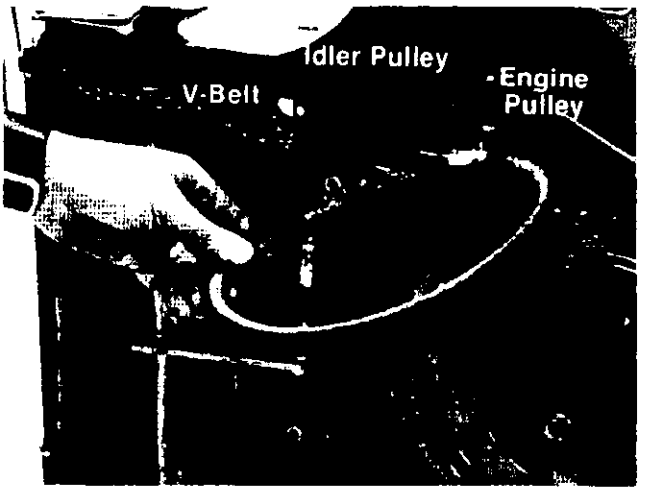


FIGURE 25.

13. Reassemble new belt in reverse order.

IMPORTANT

Be sure to remove plastic from beneath gas cap.

BLADE BRAKE/CLUTCH

This unit is equipped with a blade brake/clutch. If for some reason the blade brake/clutch becomes inoperative, it is suggested that all repair work on the blade brake/clutch should be performed by an authorized service dealer. The unit should be inspected by an authorized service dealer if any of the following conditions are noticed.

1. Frayed clutch control cable.
2. Leaking oil seal (oil collection on the floor during mower storage).
3. Extensive vibration of the unit.

Blade Brake/Clutch Removal

1. Disconnect the spark plug wire and ground it against the engine block.
2. Empty fuel tank and drain oil from crankcase.
3. Remove the cable ties which secure control cables to the handle.
4. Disconnect the "Z" fitting on the blade brake/clutch cable from the clutch control handle.
5. Remove one truss machine screw on the inside of the control housing as shown in figure 26.

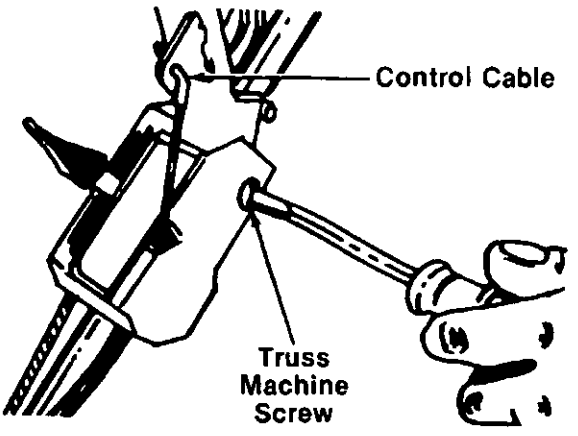


FIGURE 26.

6. Loosen the truss machine screw on the outside of the control housing until the two halves of control housing can be separated enough for the control cable to be freed. Slide the blade brake/clutch cable out of the control housing.
7. Retighten the truss machine screws on the control housing.
8. Disconnect the throttle control cable from the engine by loosening screw on engine and disconnecting the "Z" fitting. Refer to figure 9.
9. Tip the mower on its side. Remove the blade by removing two hex nuts and lock washers. Refer to figure 18.

CAUTION

When reassembling, tighten hex nuts to between 350 and 600 in. lbs.

10. Remove the center bolt as follows.
    a. Insert a screwdriver into the slot provided in the blade brake/clutch housing where the control cable enters housing. See figure 27.

b. Place a 9/16" wrench on the center bolt. Turn the wrench slowly until the screwdriver catches in a groove provided inside the clutch. The screwdriver will now keep the clutch from turning, and the center bolt, and two belleville washers may be removed.

CAUTION

Upon reassembly, be certain to tighten center bolt to between 350 and 600 in. lbs.

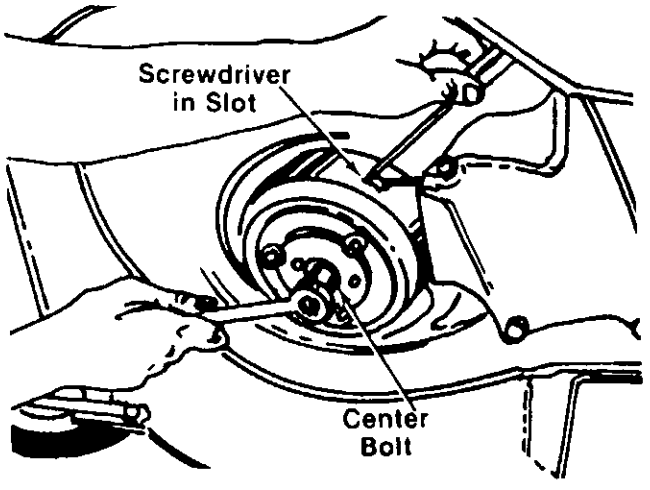


FIGURE 27.

11. Support the engine with one hand. Remove the three self-tapping screws which secure the deck and blade brake/clutch to the engine. A ½" socket wrench is required. See figure 28.

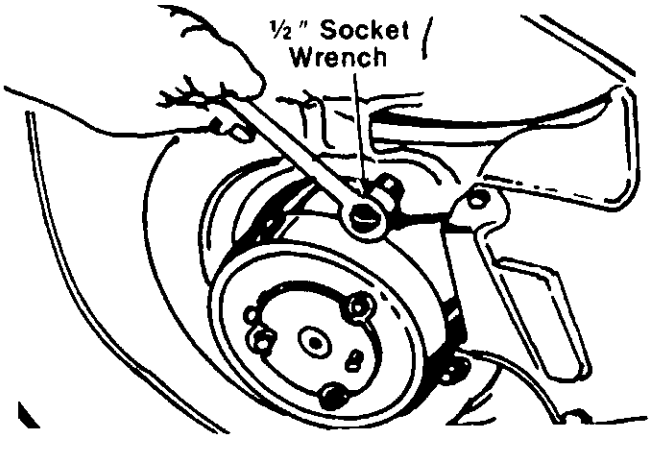


FIGURE 28.

12. Slide the blade brake/clutch cable through the hole in the deck as you lift off the engine and blade brake/clutch. Be careful not to kink control cable.
13. Remove blade brake/clutch from engine crankshaft.

Blade Brake/Clutch Installation

1. Place the new blade brake/clutch on engine crankshaft. Line up holes on blade brake/clutch with mounting holes on engine.
2. Place the two belleville washers onto crankshaft. Cupped side of washers must be against the blade brake/clutch. Secure with hex bolt finger tight only.
3. Place cable through engine mounting hole on deck.
4. Reverse steps 1 through 12 of preceding section for reassembly.

OFF-SEASON STORAGE

The following steps should be taken to prepare lawn mower for storage.

1. Clean and lubricate mower thoroughly as described in the lubrication instructions.
2. Refer to engine manual for correct engine storage instructions.
3. Coat mower's cutting blade with chassis grease to prevent rusting.
4. Store mower in a dry, clean area.

NOTE

When storing any type of power equipment in an unventilated or metal storage shed, care should be taken to rustproof the equipment. Using a light oil or silicone, coat the equipment, especially the bearings and cables.

HANDLE STORAGE

The handle can be stored in an upright position to take less space. Move hairpin cotters to outer hole on weld pins (see figure 2). Grasp the lower handle at the bottom and push inward slightly. Tip the handle forward. It will lock in this position. Reverse this procedure to place the handle in the operating position.

NOTE

Be careful not to kink or pinch blade brake/clutch cable when storing the handle.

NOTE

The use of any accessory on this Rotary Mower other than those manufactured by the mower manufacturer is **not** recommended.

GRASS CATCHER Model 065 is available as optional equipment for the mower shown in this manual.

WARNING

1. DO NOT operate the mower without the entire grass catcher or chute deflector in place.
2. DO NOT operate the mower without the protective shield on the rear of the deck in place.

NOTE

Under normal usage bag material is subject to wear and should be checked periodically. Be sure any replacement bag complies with the mower manufacturer's recommendations.

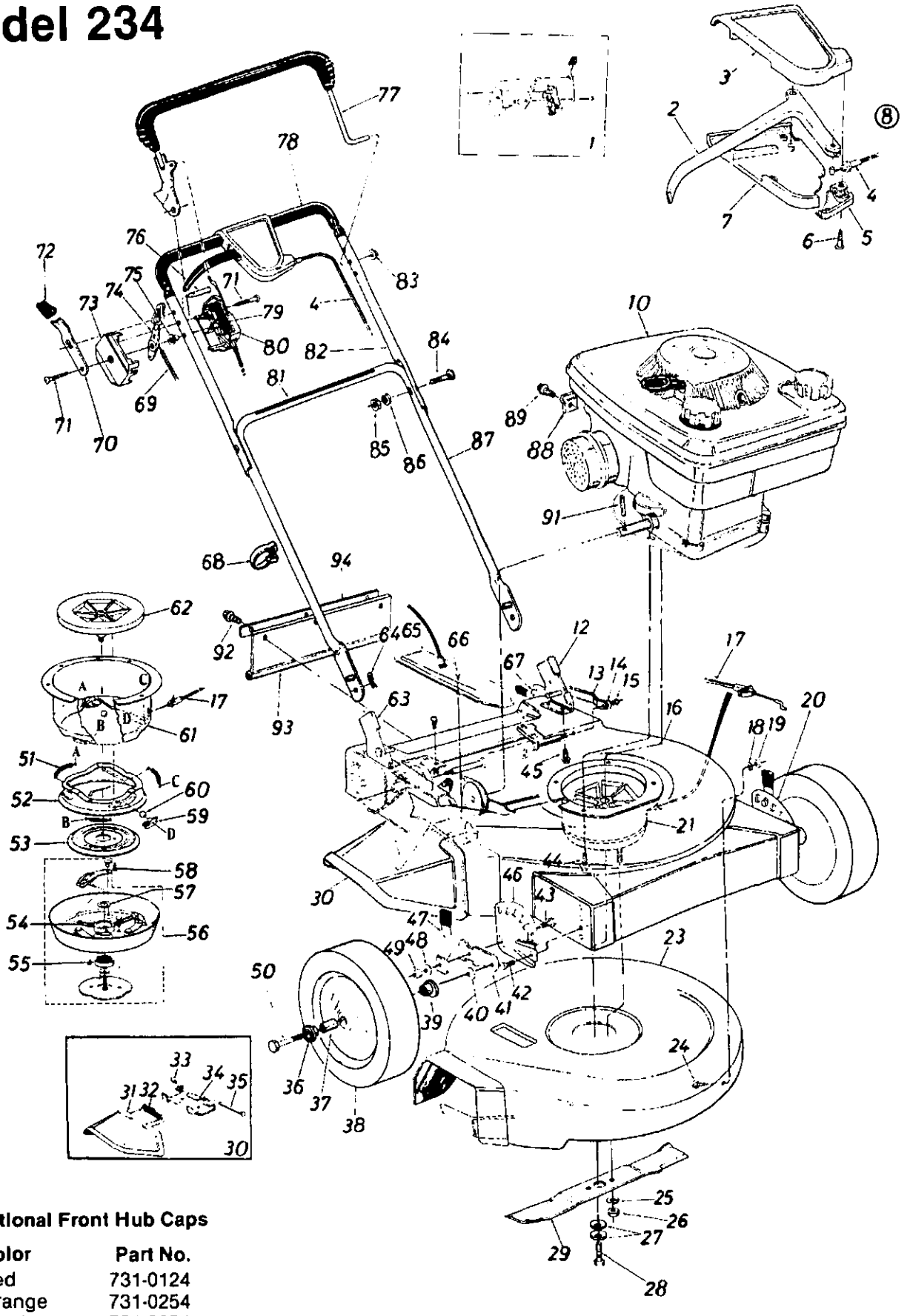
For replacement bags, use only factory authorized replacement bag No. 764-0217.

Trouble Shooting Chart

Problem	Cause	Remedy
1 Engine fails to start	A Check fuel tank for gas B Fuel shut-off valve closed C Spark plug lead wire disconnected D Throttle control lever not in the starting position E Faulty spark plug F Carburetor improperly adjusted, engine flooded G Old stale gasoline	A Fill tank if empty. B Open fuel shut-off valve. C Connect lead wire. D Move throttle lever to start position. E Spark should jump gap between control electrode and side electrode. If spark does not jump, replace the spark plug. F Remove spark plug, dry the plug, crank engine with plug removed, and throttle in off position. Replace spark plug and lead wire and resume starting procedures. G Drain and refill with fresh gasoline.
2 Hard starting or loss of power	A Spark plug wire loose B Carburetor improperly adjusted C Dirty air cleaner	A Connect and tighten spark plug wire. B Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual. C Clean air cleaner as described in separate engine manual.
3 Operation erratic	A Dirt in gas tank B Dirty air cleaner C Water in fuel supply D Vent in gas cap plugged E Carburetor improperly adjusted	A Remove the dirt and fill tank with fresh gas. B Clean air cleaner as described in separate engine manual. C Drain contaminated fuel and fill tank with fresh gas. D Clear vent or replace gas cap. E Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual.
4 Occasional skip (hesitates) at high speed	A Carburetor idle speed too slow B Spark plug gap too close C Carburetor idle mixture adjustment improperly set	A Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual. B Adjust to .030". C Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual.
5 Idles poorly	A Spark plug fouled, faulty, or gap too wide B Carburetor improperly adjusted C Dirty air cleaner	A Reset gap to .030" or replace spark plug. B Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual. C Clean air cleaner as described in separate engine manual.
6 Engine overheats	A Carburetor not adjusted properly B Air flow restricted C Engine oil level low	A Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual. B Remove blower housing and clean as described in separate engine manual. C Fill crankcase with the proper oil.
7 Excessive vibration	A Cutting blade loose or unbalanced B Bent blade	A Tighten blade. Balance blade. B Replace blade.

Note: For repairs beyond the minor adjustments listed above, contact your local service dealer.

Model 234



**Optional Front Hub Caps

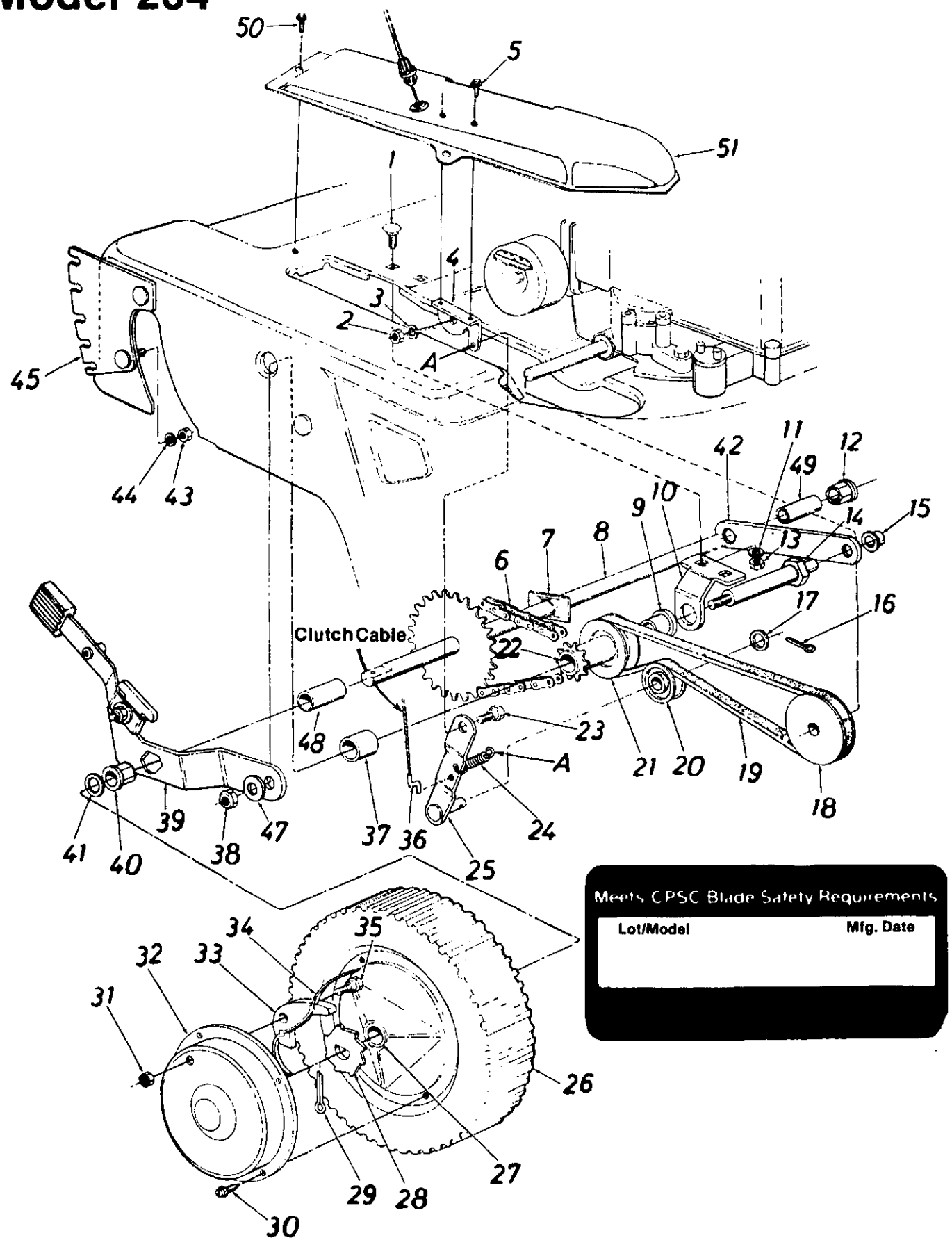
Color	Part No.
Red	731-0124
Orange	731-0254
Black	731-0354
Gray	731-0355

Model 234

PARTS LIST FOR MODEL 234 ROTARY MOWER

REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART
1	753-0361		Control Housing Comp.	
2	731-0620		Control Lever	
3	731-0617		Control Cover Half—Upper	
4	746-0464		Drive Clutch Cable—59"	
5	731-0619		Cable Mounting Cap	
6	710-0841		Flat "C" Sunk Hd. Tap Scr. #10 x .75" Lg.	
7	731-0618		Control Cover Half—Lower	
8	753-0362		Clutch Control Housing Comp.	
10	—		Engine	
12	12935		Handle Mount Brkt. Ass'y.—L.H.	
13	14927		Pivot Brkt. Ass'y.—L.H.	
14	736-0105		Belleville Wash. .400" I.D. x .88"	
15	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	
16	16025	—462	21" Deck Ass'y.—Upper	
17	746-0400		Blade Clutch Cable—46" Lg.	
18	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
19	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	
20	10941		Height Adj. Ass'y. Comp.—L.H.	
	10935		Index Plate Ass'y.—L.H.	
21	717-0488		Blade Brake/Clutch Ass'y.—Comp.	
23	11695	—462	Lower Deck Ass'y.	
24	710-0260		Carriage Bolt 5/16-18 x .62" Lg.*	
25	736-0169		L-Wash. 3/8" I.D.*	
26	712-0328		Hex Nut 3/8-24 Thd. (Grade 8)	
27	736-0105		Belleville Wash.	
28	710-0818		Hex Bolt 3/8-24 x 2.00" Lg. (Grade 8)	
29	742-0221		21" Blade	
30	11679	—462	Chute Deflector Ass'y.—Comp.	
31	11141	—462	Chute Deflector	
32	732-0253		Torsion Spring	
33	726-0106		Push Nut ¼" Rod	
34	11130	—462	Adapter Plate	
35	711-0555		Pivot Pin	
36	741-0267		Ball Bearing 3/8" I.D.	
37	750-0434		Spacer	
38	734-0643		Wheel Ass'y. Comp. 8 x 1.75	
39	741-0484		Ball Bearing ½" I.D.	
40	736-0105		Bell-Wash. .400" I.D. x .88"	
41	10937		Pivot Bar	
42	710-0209		Hex Sems Bolt 3/8-16 x .62" Lg.	
43	711-0498		Shoulder Bolt	
44	710-0654		Hex Wash. Hd. TT-Tap Scr. 3/8-16 x 1" Lg.	
45	710-0603		Hex Wash. Hd. "B"-Tap Scr. 5/16 x ½" Lg.	
46	10938		Height Adjuster Ass'y. Comp.—R.H.	
	10934		Index Plate Ass'y.—R.H.	
47	14082		Spring Lever Ass'y. w/Knob	
48	736-0219		Bell-Wash. .400" I.D. x 1.13"	
49	712-0116		Hex Ins. L-Nut 3/8-24 Thd.	
50	710-0427		Axle Bolt	
51	732-0397		Extension Spring	
52	14305		Brake Cup Cone	
53	14304		Clutching Cone	
54	732-0396		Compression Spring	
55	741-0124		Ball Bearing	
56	14300		Clutch Blade Housing Ass'y.	
57	736-0333		Fl-Wash. .69" I.D. x 1.06" O.D.	
58	710-0875		Hex TT-Tap L-Scr. ¼-20 x .75" Lg.	
59	731-0520		Ball Block	
60	741-0326		Steel Ball ½" Dia.	
61	14308		Clutch Housing	
62	719-0256		Fan Adapter	
63	12936		Handle Mount Brkt. Ass'y.—R.H.	
64	714-0104		Internal Cotter Pin 5/16" Dia.	
65	16029	—462	Belt Cover	
66	710-0224		Hex Wash. Hd. "AB" Tap Scr. #10 x .50" Lg.	
67	10641		Index Plate Ass'y.—L.H.	
68	726-0192		Cable Tie	
69	746-0417		Throttle Wire—43"	
70	732-0401		Lockout Spring	
71	710-0796		Truss Mach. Tap Scr. #12 x 1.5" Lg.	
72	720-0190		Spring Lever Knob	
73	731-0523		Control Panel Half	
74	731-0528		Throttle Control Lever	
75	731-0524		Control Disc Pin	
76	731-0607		Lock Pin	
77	731-0610		Control Handle—R.H.	
78	718-0145		Grip	
79	777-3456		Control Label—Throttle	
80	731-0526		Clutch Panel Half	
81	777-3453		Instruction Label—Handle	
82	749-0537		Upper Handle (Chrome)	
	749-0539		Upper Handle (Painted)	
83	726-0135		Cap Speed Nut 5/16" Rod	
84	710-0671		Curved Carriage Bolt 5/16-18 x 1.38" Lg.	
85	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	
86	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
87	749-0373		Lower Handle (Chrome)	
	749-0372		Lower Handle (Painted)	
88	751-0333		Casing Clamp	
89	710-0899		Hex Sems Scr. #10-32 x .62" Lg.	
91	715-0144		Spring Pin 3/16" Dia. x 1.5" Lg.	
92	710-0776		Hex Wash. Hd. AB-Tap Scr. ¼ x .62" Lg.	
93	731-0575		Rear Flap	
94	14836		Retaining Strip	
—	8234-000-5		Hardware Pack	

Model 234


50
5
51
1
4
3
2
A
45
44
43
42
11
49
12
10
9
15
14
13
8
7
6
16
17
Clutch Cable
22
48
23
A
21
20
19
18
39
47
37
36
24
41
40
38
25
34
35
32
33
31
26
27
29
28
30
Meets CPSC Blade Safety Requirements
Lot/Model
Mfg. Date

Model 234

PARTS LIST FOR MODEL 234 ROTARY MOWER

REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART
1	710-0260		Carriage Bolt 5/16-18 x .62" Lg.*	
2	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	
3	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
4	14245		Cam Bracket	
5	710-0892		Hex Wash. Hd. "AB" Tap L-Wash Scr. ¼-20 x .62" Lg.	
6	713-0144		#48 Chain ½" Pitch x 31 Links	
	713-0122		#48 Master Link ½" Pitch	
7	726-0163		Push Clip .692 Dia.	
8	10646		Rear Shaft Ass'y.	
9	741-0249		Flange Bearing .631" I.D.	
10	10644		Bracket	
11	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
12	748-0142		Flange Bearing	
13	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	
14	738-0473		Shld. Bolt .625" Dia. x 3.380 (Special)	
15	726-0221		Cap Speed Nut .50" Dia.	
16	714-0115		Cotter Pin 1/8" Dia. x 1.00" Lg.*	
17	736-0160		Fl-Wash. .531 I.D. x .930 O.D. x .050	
18	756-0384		Engine Pulley	
19	754-0114		"V"-Belt ½" x 24" Lg.	
20	756-0360		Plastic Flat Idler	
21	756-0191		Pulley with 9 Tooth Sprocket Ass'y.	
22	741-0181		Sleeve Bearing .62" I.D. x .75" O.D. x .94 Lg.	
23	738-0255		Shld. Bolt .375" Dia. x .171 Lg.	
24	732-0357		Ext. Spring .33" O.D. x 1.12" Lg.	
25	14181		Idler Bracket Ass'y.	
26	734-1026		Rear Wheel Ass'y. Comp. 8.0 x 1.75	
27	741-0180		Flange Bearing .50" I.D.	
28	748-0187		Ratchet—Rear Wheel	
29	714-0115		Cotter Pin 1/8" Dia. x 1.00" Lg.*	
30	710-0748		Pan Hd. "AB" Tap Scr. #12 x .50" Lg.	
31	712-0324		Hex Ins. L-Nut ¼-20 Thd.	
32	10647		Hub Cap	
33	748-0188		Pawl—Rear Wheel	
34	10622		Spring—Nylon	
35	738-0137		Shld. Bolt .342" Dia. x .268" Lg.	
36	746-0464		Drive Clutch Cable 59" Lg.	
37	750-0477		Spacer .635 I.D. x .88 O.D. x .910	
38	712-0342		Hex Jam Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	
39	14926		Pivot Bracket Ass'y.—R.H.	
	14927		Pivot Bracket Ass'y.—L.H.	
40	741-0324		Flange Bearing	
41	736-0160		Fl-Wash. .531 I.D. x .93 O.D. x .050	
42	12967		Support Link	
43	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	
44	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
45	10642		Index Plate Ass'y.—R.H.	
46	710-0200		Hex Wash. Hd. Self-Tap Scr. #8 x .50" Lg.	
47	736-0105		Belleville Washer	
48	750-0459		Spacer	
49	750-0190		Spacer	
50	710-0224		Hex Wash. Hd. AB-Tap Scr. #10 x .50" Lg.	
51	16029		Belt Cover	

*For faster service obtain standard nuts, bolts and washers locally. If these items cannot be obtained locally, order by part number and size as shown on parts list.

(462—Red Flake)

When ordering parts, if color or finish is important use the appropriate color code shown above. (e.g. Red Flake Finish—11428 (462).)

NOTE: The engine is not under warranty by the mower manufacturer...If repairs or service is needed on the engine, please contact your nearest authorized engine service outlet. Check the "Yellow Pages" of your telephone book under "Engines—Gasoline."

NOTE

This instruction manual covers various models and all specifications shown do not necessarily apply to your model. Specifications subject to change without notice or obligation.

MTD PRODUCTS INC • P.O. BOX 36900 • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44136